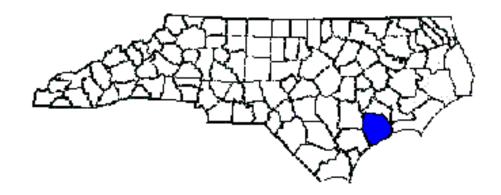
## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016**



**Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site** 

**Onslow County** 

Project: 17BP.3.R.1

**COE Action ID: SAW-2012-00394** 

**CAMA Permit #: 41-14** 

NCDWR Project#: 14-0182



Prepared By:
Roadside Environmental Unit & Natural Environment Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation
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### **APPENDICES**

Appendix A – Site Photos & Site Map

#### SUMMARY

The Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site is located on NC 50 in Onslow County near Maple Hill. The site was planted in March 2016 and was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with Project 17BP.3.R.1 Bridge No. 26 over the Shelter Swamp Creek on NC 50.

NCDOT will perform on-site mitigation with the restoration of 0.8 acres of wetland restoration (0.45 acre of herbaceous restoration and 0.35 acre of forested restoration). The restoration was completed via the removal of the existing fill associated with the bridge replacement and the NC 50 realignment. The herbaceous wetland restoration was seeded with a wetland/riparian seed mixture typical of a non-tidal freshwater marsh. The forested wetland restoration was also seeded and planted with hardwood trees. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful.

The site was planted in March 2016. After the first year of monitoring by visual observation, the Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving and the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site in 2017.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project Description

The Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site is located at Bridge No. 26 over the Shelter Swamp Creek on NC 50 (Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 0.8 acres of wetland restoration for wetland impacts associated with Project 17BP.3.R.1.

#### 1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, the site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2016 at the Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

#### 1.3 Project History

March 2016	Wetland Reforestation Completed
August 2016	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 1)

#### 1.4 Debit Ledger

The entire Shelter Swamp Creek mitigation site was used for the 17BP.3.R.1 project to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts.

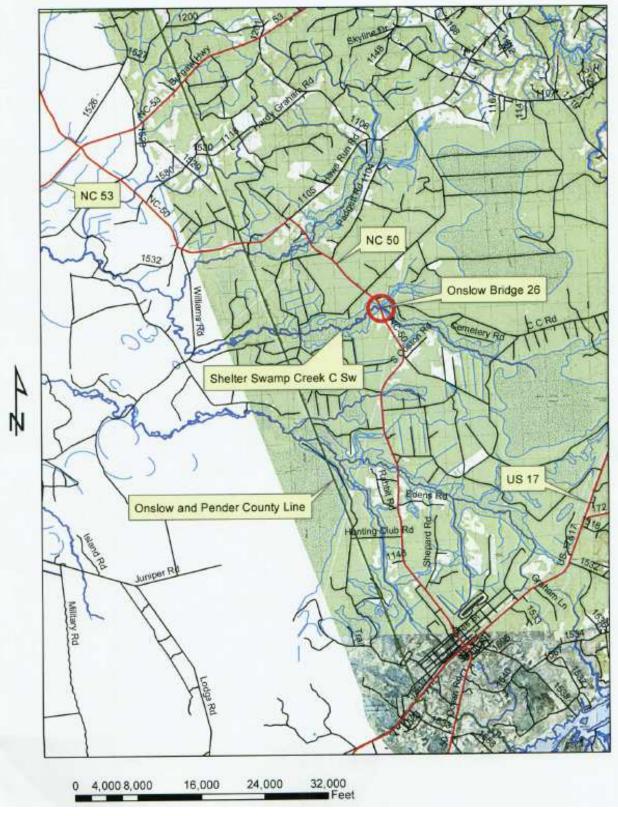


Figure 1. Vicinity Map

## 2.0 VEGETATION: SHELTER SWAMP CREEK MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 1 MONITORING)

#### 2.1 Success Criteria

Success for vegetation monitoring within the restoration area is based on the survival of planted woody vegetation and coverage of seeded herbaceous vegetation. NCDOT shall monitor the restoration area by visual observation and photo points for vegetation survival. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful. Monitoring will be initiated upon completion of the site planting.

#### 2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the Wetland Restoration Area:

Taxodium distichum, Baldcypress

Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora, Swamp Blackgum

Nyssa aquatica, Water Tupelo

Liriodendron tulipera, Tulip Poplar

Platanus occidentalis, American Sycamore

#### 2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status and the planted species are surviving. Planted species noted surviving included Baldcypress, Swamp Blackgum, Water Tupelo, Tulip Poplar, and Sycamore. Other species noted within the planted area included cattail, soft rush, fennel, *Juncus* sp., sweetgum, *Scirpus* sp., woolgrass, and various grasses. Standing water was noted across the majority of the site.

#### 2.4 Conclusions

By visual observation, the Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving and the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

#### 3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Shelter Swamp Creek Mitigation Site in 2017.

# APPENDIX A SITE PHOTOS & SITE MAPS

Shelter Swamp Creek



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5 August 2016



Photo 6



